

**APPLICATION FOR A RULING THAT WORKS CREDITED
TO S. A. RENIER AS OF THE DATES 1804 AND 1807 WERE
NOT PUBLISHED WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 25
OF THE "RÈGLES"**

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(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)688)

In a recent petition Dr. L. R. Cox (Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)432)¹ asks that "the *Prodromo* of S. A. Renier and the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* (dated 1804) prepared by that author for inclusion in the *Prodromo*" be rejected as not having been duly published.

2. The present petition requests that the Commission consider the larger problem of all of Renier's uncompleted works dated 1804 and 1807. As Dr. Cox's petition did not take into account the generic and specific names involved, it seems well to review these in some detail.

3. The term "*Prodromo*" apparently was used only informally if at all by Renier, for the word does not appear in the photostatic copy of Renier's works now in Stanford University library, a copy formerly owned by C. D. Sherborn. In his *Index animalium* (sect. 2, vol. 1, 1922), Sherborn cites the titles of these works thus:

Prodr. osserv. Venezia 1804-7 (not published except as the three following):
Tavola alfab. Conch. Adriat. 1804.

Prosp. classe dei Vermi. 1804.

Compendium di Zoologia (does not exist except as the following):

Tavola per serve. conosc. classif. Anim. 1807; (Ed. 2, 1820, quoted by Meneghini in Oss. post. 1847, 114).

The *Nomenclator Animalium Generum et Subgenerum* of Schulze, Kükenthal, and Heider (vol. 1, 1926) cites these titles somewhat differently:

Tavola Alfabetica delle Conchiglie Adriatiche nominate dietro il sistema di Linneo, Edizione di Gmelin. Padua, 1788.

Prodromo di Osservazioni sopra alcuni Esseri viventi della Classe dei Vermi abitanti nell' Adriatico, nelle Lagune e Litorali Veneti—Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi. Padua, 1804.

Tavole per servire alla classificazione e conoscenza deglie animali. Padua, 1807.

4. The only contemporary mention of Renier's work I have found is by G. B. Brocchi (1814, *Conchiologia fossile Subappennina* 1: 55 [free translation]): . . . Signor Renieri, professor of natural history at the University of Padua, having been engaged for several years in the study of the organisms of the Adriatic, has provided me the opportunity of consulting the very rich series of shells which he collected in this sea and on which he published the Catalogue in 1804. . .

Brocchi's book, published in Milan (not far from Padua), had wide circulation

¹ A decision has now been taken on Dr. Cox's application (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2: 299-300) and has been embodied in *Opinion* 316, which it is hoped to publish at an early date.

in Europe, and hence it carried some of Renier's zoological names with it. Save for citations from Brocchi, I find no further mention of Renier's early papers until 1847 when in another nearby Italian city, Venice, two authors, Meneghini and Nardo, published works based on Renier's manuscripts. As I have not been able to consult these, I quote the titles from Engelmann (*Bibliotheca zool.*, Bd. 1, 1861 : 273-4) :

Renier, St. A., Osservazioni postumi di zoologia Adriatica, pubblicati per cura dell' I. R. Istituto Veneto di scienze, lettere ed arti a studio del Prof. Meneghini. Con 16 tavole color, e 16 tavole nere. Venezia . . . 1847. Fol. In 100 Exemplaren gedrückt.

Nardo, Giov. Domin., Fauna marina volgare del Veneto estuario. Venezia, 1847. 8.

— Prospetto della Fauna marina del Veneto Estuario. Venezia, 1847. 8.

Hence, the date of validation of most of Renier's zoological names would seem to be 1847. One may question whether even Brocchi considered the names to have been published, for he cited no page references for the names of the species that he attributed to Renier, in marked contrast to the careful documentation given the names of species described by previous authors.

5. Renier's first work, the "*Tavola alfabetica* . . ." is assigned the date 1788 by Engelmann (*op. cit.* : 831) and by Schulze, Kükenthal, and Heider. This is manifestly incorrect, for the sections of Gmelin's edition of *Systema Naturae* to which it refers did not appear until 1790. In this *Tavola*, which consists of plates numbered 1 to 13, no new generic names were proposed, but Renier credited to himself many new trivial names, with footnote discussions. Although most of his descriptions are inadequate, references to previously published figures document a number of names. Fortunately, most of the figures had already been acceptably named by other authors. At least three of Renier's specific names, however, still crop up occasionally in lists—*Tellina serrata*, *Solecurtus candidus*, and *Eulima incurva*. The first two are absolute *nomina nuda* in the *Tavola*. *Tellina serrata* was validated by Brocchi, 1814, and should be attributed to him. For *Solecurtus candidus* (*Solen candidus* Renier) the synonym *S. scopula* Turton, 1822 has been adopted by Winckworth (1932, *J. Conch.* 19 : 246). Winckworth credited *Eulima incurva* (*Helix incurva* Renier, based on two published figures) to Bucquoy, Dautzenberg, and Dollfus, 1893, though one would wonder whether it may not have been validated earlier by Meneghini or Nardo. Some 40 other of Renier's specific names are listed by Bucquoy, Dautzenberg and Dollfus (1882-1898, *Mollusques Marins du Roussillon*) as synonyms. Hence, none of the names in the *Tavola alfab.* seems in need of conservation.

6. The pages of the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermì* . . . are numbered as plates 25 to 26. Several new generic and trivial names are proposed :

Discoides (sole species, *D. nutans* Renier, briefly described).

Polycitor (based on four species of which two are previously described, *Alcyonium schlosseri* Pallas, 1766, and *A. conicum* Olivi, 1792, renamed by Renier).

Scolixedion (sole species *S. penulatum* Renier = *Serpula arenaria* Linnaeus, 1758).

Cerebratulus (based on two species, *C. bilineatus* Renier and *C. marginatus* Renier, both briefly described).

Aglaja (sic), *Rodens*, *Tricoelia* (sic), *Tubulanus* (nomina nuda).

7. As I have shown elsewhere (1951, *Nautilus* **65** (No. 1) : 8-15), the third work of Renier, the "Tavole," consists of eight synoptic tables covering five of the eleven classes into which he divided the animal kingdom. Names credited by Renier to himself appear in four of the tables :

Alcyonaria (based on *Alcyonium palmatum* Pallas, 1766, and *A. digitatum* Linnaeus, 1758).

Acicula (sole species, *A. macula* Renier, briefly described).

Rodens (sole species, *R. armillatus* Renier, briefly described).

Tricelia (sole species, *T. variopadata* Renier, briefly described).

Tuba (sole species, *T. divisa* Renier, briefly described).

Tubulanus (sole species, *T. polymorphus* Renier, briefly described).

Cystia (based on two species, *C. nivea* Renier, undescribed, and *Ostrea bullata* Born, 1778).

Arenaria (homonym of *Arenaria* Brisson, 1760).

Aglaja (based on two species, *A. depicta* Renier and *A. tricolorata* Renier, both described).

Discoides (sole species, *D. nutans* Renier, briefly described).

Cerebratulus, *Marginella*, *Imisia*, *Scolixedion* (nomina nuda).

8. Had these unfinished works of Renier been validly published in the years 1804 and 1807, the following generic names would be available for use : *Acicula* (1807), *Aglaja* (1807), *Alcyonaria* (1804), *Cerebratulus* (1804), *Cystia* (1807), *Discoides* (1807), *Polycitor* (1804), *Rodens* (1807), *Scolixedion* (1804), *Tricelia* (1807), *Tuba* (1807), and *Tubulanus* (1807). The question arises, how many have found their way into the literature ? Of the names that fall within Mollusca—*Aglaja*, *Cystia*, *Discoides*, and *Scolixedion*—only *Aglaja* is in use, type genus of the family AGLAJIDAE (Gastropoda, Opisthobranchiata). It was adopted by Pilsbry in 1895 on the assumption, from the testimony of Meneghini, 1847, that it had priority over the long used *Doridium* Meckel, 1809. One may note that more specific names have been proposed under *Doridium* than under *Aglaja*, but readoption of *Doridium* might cause some confusion, as the family name DORIDIIDAE Bergh, 1893, is regrettably similar to DORIDIDAE, name of another family of Opisthobranchiata (type genus, *Doris*). Rejection of *Aglaja* Renier might also have repercussions in other fields of zoology, for there is an *Aglaja* Eschscholtz, 1825 in Coelenterata and *Aglaja* Swainson, 1827, in Aves (*vide* Sherborn). The question of conserving the name *Aglaja* is here left open for the expression of opinion by interested persons. *Discoides* is a *nomen dubium*, usually regarded as a synonym of *Pleurobranchus* Cuvier, 1804. *Cystia*, if validated, would displace *Limatula* Wood, 1839, and *Scolixedion* would displace *Serpulorbis* Sassi, 1827. In Mollusca, then, only *Aglaja* might justifiably be made a *nomen conservandum*. Regarding other Phyla, I have thus far consulted only Dr. Olga Hartman, specialist in Annelida. She informs me that *Tricelia* is considered a synonym of *Chaetopterus* [Cuvier, 1830] and that *Cerebratulus* is in use in Nemertea. According to Bronn's *Classen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs*, *Tubulanus* is also a genus of Nemertea, type of the family TUBULANIDAE. I have no information on the present status of *Acicula*, *Alcyonaria*, *Polycitor*, *Rodens*, and *Tuba*. If they

are in use, specialists may wish to petition for their preservation. The generic name *Alcyonaria* Renier seems to have been overlooked by most nomenclators. It is not the *Alcyonaria* of Milne-Edwards, a subclass of Coelenterata.

9. There is in the "Tavole," 1807, a further problem of dual nomenclature for molluscan genera. A sample entry is here quoted:

Nome generico dei	Nome generico delle	Nome specifico di
Molluschi	conchiglie	alcuni conchiglie

3. <i>Fistulanigenus</i>	<i>Fistulana</i> Lam.	<i>Ter. clava</i> Gmel.
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Thus, the names in Renier's first column are compounded from the names in the second (the standard list of his day) by addition of the suffix-*genus* to denote the soft parts or the animal that resides in the shell. Perhaps these terms could be dismissed under *Opinion* 72 as formulae, not true zoological names. Although they have been cited as available names by modern nomenclators, none has yet been adopted, so far as I can discover, and none would seem to serve a useful purpose. (It may be remarked that several of these refer to groups that would not now be placed in Mollusca.) The following note explains the nature of Renier's plates VII and VIII and the method used by him for numbering the terms which he employed:—

Renier's Tavole VII and VIII are really analytical charts, with descriptive text at the top and left side to group the organisms in morphologic categories. At the right were the series of columns described in my petition, listing common name, latin name, name of shell, name of animal, etc. The numerical arrangement began with an overall column followed immediately by a second which tallied all the genera in one of his selected morphologic categories. Major breaks in continuity in the second column here were caused by insertion, from time to time, of a group of "naked" mollusks among those that were "shelled." Thus, in Tav. VII, the numbers run concurrently to 5, these being soft-bodied groups, then the shelled ones begin at 1 in the second column, opposite 6 in the first. I would not need to mention this complication except that if the Commission wishes to list the names by number and uses only the second column, there would appear to be two number 8's, one opposite 13 of Tav. VII, the other opposite 95 of Tav. VIII. In making this transcript I have included several names to show you the system that should be omitted in the final version. These I have signalized by asterisks. It may be you will choose to use the numbers in the first column. In this case the numeration would begin at 6 and would omit 83, 94, and 96 as well as 152-160. But if you choose to use both or to use the set that is nearest to the generic names in question, some explanation will have to be given for the breaks in sequence between 87-88 and after 142.

10. The following is a complete list of the names ending in *genus*, in the order given by Renier:—

Tav. VII—MOLLUSCHI

*1.	1.	Mammaria	13.	8.	Sanguinolarigenus
*2.	2.	Pyrosoma Peron	14.	9.	Glycimerigenus
*3.	3.	Salpa	15.	10.	Myigenus
*4.	4.	Polycitor	16.	11.	Panopeigenus
*5.	5.	Ascidia	17.	12.	Anatinigenus
6.	1.	Teredigenus	18.	13.	Mactrigenus
7.	2.	Pholadigenus	19.	14.	Lutrarigenus
8.	3.	Fistulanigenus	20.	15.	Crassatelligenus
9.	4.	Saxicavigenus	21.	16.	Ungulinigenus
10.	5.	Rupellarigenus	22.	17.	Tellinigenus
11.	6.	Petricoligenus	23.	18.	Donacigenus
12.	7.	Solenigenus	24.	19.	Cytherigenus

25.	20.	Venerigenus	52.	47.	Crenatuligenus
26.	21.	Erycinigenus	53.	48.	Mytiligenus
27.	22.	Capsigenus	54.	49.	Modioligenus
28.	23.	Galateigenus	55.	50.	Pinnigenus
29.	24.	Cycladigenus	56.	51.	Planconigenus [sic]
30.	25.	Lucinigenus	57.	52.	Marginelligenus
31.	26.	Venericardigenus	58.	53.	Limigenus
32.	27.	Cardigenus	59.	54.	Pedigenus
33.	28.	Isocardigenus	60.	55.	Cystigenus
34.	29.	Carditigenus	61.	56.	Imisigenus
35.	30.	Hippopigenus	62.	57.	Pectinigenus
36.	31.	Tridacnigenus	63.	58.	Spondyligenus
37.	32.	Trigonigenus	64.	59.	Plicatuligenus
38.	33.	Cucullaeigenus	65.	60.	Gryphaeigenus
39.	34.	Archigenus	66.	61.	Ostreigenus
40.	35.	Pectunculigenus	67.	62.	Vulselligenus
41.	36.	Nuculigenus	68.	63.	Anomigenus
42.	37.	Anodontigenus	69.	64.	Crenigenus
43.	38.	Uniigenus	70.	65.	Calceoligenus
44.	39.	Pandorigenus	71.	66.	Radiolithigenus
45.	40.	Corbuligenus	72.	67.	Orbiculigenus
46.	41.	Diceratigenus	73.	68.	Terebratuligenus
47.	42.	Chamigenus	74.	69.	Liguligenus
48.	43.	Etherigenus	75.	70.	Anatigenus
49.	44.	Hirundigenus	76.	71.	Balanigenus
50.	45.	Malleigenus	77.	72.	Tubicinelligenus
51.	46.	Pernigenus	78.	73.	Coronuligenus

Tav. VIII—MOLLUSCHI

79.	74.	Aspergilligenus	116.	107.	Cyclotomigenus
80.	75.	Siliquarigenus	117.	108.	Monodontigenus
81.	76.	Vermicularigenus	118.	109.	Delphinuligenus
82.	77.	{ Arenarigenus	119.	110.	Turbinigenus
		{ Scolixedion	120.	111.	Solarigenus
*83.	6.	Phyllidia	121.	112.	Trochigenus
84.	78.	Patelligenus	122.	113.	Cerithigenus
85.	79.	Fissurelligenus	123.	114.	Clavatuligenus
86.	80.	Emarginuligenus	124.	115.	Pleurotomigenus
87.	81.	Crepiduligenus	125.	116.	Turbinelligenus
88.	82.	Calyptraeigenus	126.	117.	Fasciolarigenus
89.	83.	Stomatigenus	127.	118.	Pyruligenus
90.	84.	Halitidigenus	128.	119.	Fusigenus
91.	85.	Concolopadigenus	129.	120.	Muricigenus
92.	86.	Planospirigenus	130.	121.	Rostellariigenus
93.	87.	Chitonigenus	131.	122.	Pterocerigenus
*94.	7.	Parmacella	132.	123.	Strombigenus
*95.	8.	Testacelligenus	133.	124.	Cassigenus
*96.	9.	Limax	134.	125.	Harpigenus
97.	88.	Naticigenus	135.	126.	Doligenus
98.	89.	Neritigenus	136.	127.	Terebrigenus
99.	90.	Helicinigenus	137.	128.	Eburnigenus
100.	91.	Helicigenus	138.	129.	Buccinigenus
101.	92.	Planorbigenus	139.	130.	Purpurigenus
102.	93.	Ampullarigenus	140.	131.	Nassigenus
103.	94.	Auriculigenus	141.	132.	Cancellarigenus
104.	95.	Pyramidelligenus	142.	133.	Marginelligenus
105.	96.	Melanigenus	143.	134.	Columbelligenus
106.	97.	Lymneigenus	144.	135.	Mitridigenus
107.	98.	Achatinigenus	145.	136.	Volutigenus
108.	99.	Phasianelligenus	146.	137.	Ancilligenus
109.	100.	Volvarigenus	147.	138.	Olivigenus
110.	101.	Bulimigenus	148.	139.	Terebelligenus
111.	102.	Amphibulimigenus	149.	140.	Ovuligenus
112.	103.	Ianthinigenus	150.	141.	Cypraeigenus
113.	104.	Turritelligenus	151.	142.	Conigenus
114.	105.	Pupigenus	161.	18.	Sigaretigenus
115.	106.	Scalarigenus	162.	19.	Bulligenus

11. I concur with Dr. Cox in the belief that these papers of Renier's are "fragments of a work contemplated but never published." The lack of an over-all title page, the preservation of only a single known copy of the works, at the library of the University of Padua, the lack of agreement among bibliographers as to exact titles and dates, and the omission of Renier's generic names from nomenclators such as Agassiz (1842-46) and Herrmannsen (1846-49) [the name *Aglaia* is listed in the supplement to the latter (1852) as, "Renier (?1804)"], all suggest that prior to 1847 Renier's works above discussed existed only as proof-sheets or as charts set up in type for class-room use.

12. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is now asked to take the following action supplementary to the action in regard to the *Tavola alfabetica delle Conchiglie Adriatiche* and the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* prepared by Renier (S.A.) and commonly attributed to the year "1804" recommended in the application already submitted by Dr. L. R. Cox, namely that it should:

- (1) rule that the work by Renier (S.A.) entitled *Tavole per servire alla classificazione e conoscenza degli Animali* and commonly attributed to the year "1807" was not published within the meaning of Article 25 of the *Règles* and therefore that no name acquired the status of availability by reason of appearing in the foregoing work;
- (2) place the work specified in (1) above on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Works in Zoological Nomenclature*;
- (3) provide an opportunity to specialists to submit applications for the validation, under the Plenary Powers, of any of the under-mentioned generic names which may be shown to be in current use;
 - (a) Names which first appeared in the *Prospetto* of 1804:
 - (i) *Discoides* Renier;
 - (ii) *Cerebratulus* Renier;
 - (iii) *Polycitor* Renier;
 - (iv) *Scolixedion* Renier;
 - (b) Names which first appeared in the *Tavole* of 1807:
 - (i) *Aglaia* Renier;
 - (ii) *Alcyonaria* Renier;
 - (iii) *Cystia* Renier;
 - (iv) *Rodens* Renier;
 - (v) *Tricelia* Renier;
 - (vi) *Tuba* Renier;
 - (vii) *Tubulanus* Renier;
- (4) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*:
 - (a) any of the names enumerated in (3) above which are not validated under the Plenary Powers in response to the appeal there suggested;
 - (b) the generic names having the termination "-genus" listed in paragraph 10 of the present application (unless this is considered impracticable, in which case a Ruling that these words are formulae and not zoological names is asked for);
- (5) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* the specific names enumerated in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7 of the present application as names newly-proposed by Renier in the works there specified.